

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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UNCLAS LAGOS 07624

E.O. 11652 : NA
TAGS : OEXC,NI
SUBJ : FY-76 IV NOMINATION: MUHAMMADU, TURI

1. POST NOMINATES FOR 30-DAY IV GRANT MR. TURI MUHAMMADU,
EDITOR, NEW NIGERIAN, IMPLEMENTING CPP PROJECT I-3.
REQUEST EARLY APPROVAL, GIVEN NOMINEE'S AVAILABILITY SEPTEMBER
8 (PLANNED LEAVE PERIOD.)

2. BIODATA FOLLOWS:

FULL NAME : MR. TURI MUHAMMADU

PRESENT POSITION : EDITOR, NEW NIGERIAN, KADUNA

PAST POSITIONS : ASSOCIATE EDITOR (LAGOS), NEW NIGERIAN

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 10 SEP 2013]; BIDA, NORTH WESTERN STATE

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE US: ONE WEEK IN SEPTEMBER, 1973 AS
JOURNALIST COVERING GENERAL GOWON'S
VISIT TO THE UN.

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO OTHER COUNTRIES: JAPAN 1970; CANADA
1970/71; TOGO, 1972; BRITAIN 1973

VISA ELIGIBILITY: NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE
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REASONS FOR NOMINATION: MUHAMMADU IS EDITOR OF MAJOR
NEWSPAPER IN SIX NORTHERN STATES AND
ONE OF TWO LEADING DAILIES IN NIGERIA. HE IS ONE OF SMALL.
IMPORTANT GROUP OF YOUNG HAUSA INTELLECTUALS WITH CONSIDERABLE
INFLUENCE WITH HIS PEERS AS WELL AS, THROUGH HIS POSITION, ALL
LEVELS OF SOCIETY IN NORTHERN NIGERIA AND INDEED, ENTIRE COUNTRY.
HE HAS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN U.S. BUT RELATIVELY LITTLE
KNOWLEDGE OF COUNTRY AND HIS ONLY VISIT WAS TO NEW YORK WHEN
GENERAL GOWON VISITED U.N. IN SEPTEMBER, 1973. EVENTS AT THAT
TIME LEFT MEMORIES WHICH STILL RANKLE.

OBJECTIVES OF US VISIT: BELIEVE 30-DAY VISIT TO VARIOUS PARTS
OF U.S. COULD GIVE NOMINEE MUCH
BETTER BALANCED PICTURE OF U.S. LIFE AND SOCIETY AS WELL AS HELP
CORRECT IMPRESSION LEFT BY SHORT 1973 VISIT. EXPOSURE TO U.S.
MEDIA AND THEIR APPROACH TO NEWS COULD HAVE SALUTARY EFFECT ON
MUHAMMADU'S OWN PHILOSOPHY OF JOURNALISM AS WELL AS DEMONSTRATE
TO RELATIVELY INEXPERIENCED, JOURNALIST (LESS THAN FIVE YEARS) THE
BREADTH AND DEPTH OF MODERN AMERICAN JOURNALISM. AN
UNQUESTIONABLY INFLUENTIAL MEDIA LEADER, MUHAMMADU ON RETURN
SHOULD PROVIDE VALUABLE MULTIPLIER EFFECT WHICH CERTAIN TO BE
REFLECTED IN HIS NEWSPAPER.

AVAILABILITY DATE FOR US VISIT: SEPTEMBER 8, 1975.
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